CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An artificial eye comprising:
a base; and
an lens-lamina structure, attached to said base, comprising:
a lens having a substantially flat backside, said lens comprising a natural material selected from the group consisting of diamond, sapphire, topaz, beryl, quartz, zircon, and ruby; and
a lamina attached to said backside of said lens.

2. The artificial eye of claim 1 wherein said base is formed from a plastic.

3. The artificial eye of claim 2 wherein said base has a depression in its surface and said lens is receptively received in said depression.

4. The artificial eye of claim 3 wherein said lamina is formed from one selected from the group consisting of: colored ceramic material; one or more colored glass frits; a photographic image; and an image imprinted flat sheet.

5. The artificial eye of claim 1 further comprising:
an insert layer between said lens and said lamina.

6. The artificial eye of claim 5 wherein said base is formed from a plastic.

7. The artificial eye of claim 6 wherein said lamina is formed from one selected from the group consisting of: colored ceramic material; one or more colored glass frits; a photographic image; and an image imprinted flat sheet

8. The artificial eye of claim 7 wherein said insert layer is made of glass.

9. An artificial eye comprising:

a base; and

a lens-lamina structure, attached to said base, comprising:

a lens having a substantially flat backside, said lens comprising a synthetic material selected from the group consisting of cubic zirconium, synthetic rutile, synthetic sapphire, synthetic spinel, strontium titanate, yttrium aluminate, and gadolinium gallium garnet; and

a lamina attached to said backside of said lens.

10. The artificial eye of claim 9 wherein said base is formed from a plastic.

11. The artificial eye of claim 10 wherein said base has a depression in its surface and said lens is receptively received in said depression.

12. The artificial eye of claim 11 wherein said lamina is formed from one selected from the group consisting of: colored ceramic material; one or more colored glass frits; a photographic image; and an image imprinted flat sheet

13. The artificial eye of claim 9 further comprising:
an insert layer between said lens and said lamina.

14. The artificial eye of claim 13 wherein said base is formed from a plastic.

15. The artificial eye of claim 14 wherein said lamina is formed from one selected from the group consisting of: colored ceramic material; one or more colored glass frits; a photograph; and an image imprinted flat sheet.

16. The artificial eye of claim 15 wherein said insert layer is made of glass.

17. A method of fabricating an artificial eye comprising:

attaching a lamina to a lens formed from a natural material selected from the group consisting of diamond, sapphire, topaz, beryl, quartz, zircon, and ruby to form a lens-lamina structure; and

attaching said lens-lamina structure to a base.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the step of attaching a lamina to a lens comprises:

imprinting a layer of material with an image of an iris and a pupil to form a lamina; and

affixing, by means of an adhesive, said lamina to a lens.

19. The method of claim 17 wherein the step of attaching a lamina to a lens comprises:

suitably arranging one or more glass frits in relation to said lens; and

sintering said one or more glass frits onto said lens to produce a lens-lamina structure.

20. A method of fabricating an artificial eye comprising:

attaching a lamina to an insert layer;

attaching said insert layer to a lens formed from a natural material selected from the group consisting of diamond, sapphire, topaz, beryl, quartz, zircon, and ruby; and

attaching said lens to a base.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein the step of attaching a lamina to an insert layer comprises:

imprinting a sheet of material with an image of an iris and a pupil to form a lamina, and

attaching, by means of an adhesive, said lamina to an insert layer.

22. The method of claim 20 wherein the step of attaching a lamina to an insert layer comprises:

suitably arranging one or more glass frits in relation to said insert layer; and

sintering said one or more glass frits onto said insert layer.

23. An artificial eye comprising:

base means for holding a lens means and for appearing white;

lens means coupled to said base means for visually transmitting visible light, said lens means comprising:

a natural material selected from the group consisting of diamond, sapphire, topaz, beryl, quartz, zircon, and ruby; and

lamina means coupled between said lens means and said base means for creating a visual image of part of an eye.

24. The artificial eye of claim 23 wherein the lens means magnifies an image formed from visible light which is transmitted through said lens means.

25. The artificial eye of claim 24 wherein said part of an eye comprises an iris and a pupil or a fanciful image.

26. The artificial eye of claim 25 further comprising:

insert means coupled between said lens means and said lamina means for transmitting visual light and extending the distance between the lamina means and the surface of the lens means.

27. A method of fabricating an artificial eye comprising:

attaching a lamina to a lens formed from a synthetic material selected from the group consisting of cubic zirconium, synthetic rutile, synthetic sapphire, synthetic spinel, strontium titanate, yttrium aluminate, and gadolinium gallium garnet to form a lens-lamina structure; and

attaching said lens-lamina structure to a base.

28. The method of claim 27 wherein the step of attaching a lamina to a lens comprises:

imprinting a layer of material with an image of an iris and a pupil to form a lamina; and

affixing, by means of an adhesive, said lamina to a lens.

29. The method of claim 27 wherein the step of attaching a lamina to a lens comprises:

suitably arranging one or more glass frits in relation to said lens; and

sintering said one or more glass frits onto said lens to produce a lens-lamina structure.

30. A method of fabricating an artificial eye comprising:

attaching a lamina to an insert layer;

attaching said insert layer to a lens formed from a synthetic material selected from the group consisting of cubic zirconium, synthetic rutile, synthetic sapphire, synthetic spinel, strontium titanate, yttrium aluminate, and gadolinium gallium garnet; and

attaching said lens to a base.

31. The method of claim 30 wherein the step of attaching a lamina to an insert layer comprises:

imprinting a sheet of material with an image of an iris and a pupil to form a lamina; and

attaching, by means of an adhesive, said lamina to an insert layer.

32. The method of claim 30 wherein the step of attaching a lamina to an insert layer comprises:

suitably arranging one or more glass frits in relation to said insert layer; and

sintering said one or more glass frits onto said insert layer.

33. An artificial eye comprising:

base means for holding a lens means and for appearing white;

lens means coupled to said base means for visually transmitting visible light, said lens means comprising:

a synthetic material selected from the group consisting of cubic zirconium, synthetic rutile, synthetic sapphire, synthetic spinel, strontium titanate, yttrium aluminate, and gadolinium gallium garnet; and

lamina means coupled between said lens means and said base means for creating a visual image of part of an eye.

34. The artificial eye of claim 33 wherein the lens means magnifies an image formed from visible light which is transmitted through said lens means.

35. The artificial eye of claim 34 wherein said part of an eye comprises an iris and a pupil or a fanciful image.

36. The artificial eye of claim 35 further comprising:

insert means coupled between said lens means and said lamina means for transmitting visual light and extending the distance between the lamina means and the surface of the lens means.

37. An improved doll having at least one eye comprising a lens coupled to a sclera wherein the improvement comprises:

the lens comprising a synthetic material selected from the group consisting of cubic zirconium, synthetic rutile, synthetic sapphire, synthetic spinel, strontium titanate, yttrium aluminate, and gadolinium gallium garnet.

38. The improved doll of claim 37, said improvement further comprising:

a lamina attached to said lens, said lamina being characterized by one of the group consisting of colored ceramic material; one or more colored glass frits; a photographic image; and an image imprinted flat sheet.

39. The improved doll of claim 37, said improvement further comprising:

an insert attached between said lens and said sclera.

40. An improved doll having at least one eye comprising a lens coupled to a sclera wherein the improvement comprises:

the lens comprising a natural material selected from the group consisting of diamond, sapphire, topaz, beryl, quartz, zircon, and ruby.

41. The improved doll of claim 40, said improvement further comprising:

a lamina attached to said lens, said lamina being characterized by one of the g roup consisting of colored ceramic material; one or more colored glass frits; a photographic image; and an image imprinted flat sheet.

42. The improved doll of claim 40, said improvement further comprising:
an insert attached between said lens and said sclera.